

filed, including portions of WO 95/18856 properly incorporated by reference, provide ample support to demonstrate that Applicants were in possession of the claimed invention. Furthermore, Applicants maintain that the previously rejected claims are enabled throughout their scope.

Additionally, Applicants have added new claims 114-144. Support for the subject matter of these claims is found throughout the specification. No new matter has been entered. Applicants point out that the newly added claims contain a means plus function limitation. Accordingly, these claims should be examined under the guidelines set forth in 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph (*see* MPEP 2181). With regard to interpretation of a means plus function claim limitation, "if a claim limitation invokes 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, it must be interpreted to cover the corresponding structure, materials, or acts in the specification and 'equivalents thereof.'" (MPEP 2181; *B. Braun Medical Inc. v. Abbott Lab*, 124 F.3d 1419, 1424, 43 USPQ2d 1896, 1899 (Fed. Cir.1997). In the context of the present application, Applicants submit that the corresponding structures for activating hedgehog signaling include Sonic hedgehog, Indian hedgehog, and Desert hedgehog.

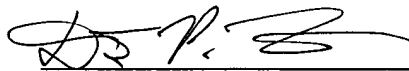
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner may address any questions raised by this submission to the undersigned at 617-951-7000. Should an extension of time be required, Applicants hereby petition for same and request that the extension fee and any other fee required for timely consideration of this submission be charged to **Deposit Account No. 18-1945**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: October 23, 2002

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